



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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March 21, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
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Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
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Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum includes a status update on two County-advocacy bills related to building standards and land use.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-support and amend AB 19 (Fong), which would encourage water conservation by requiring a water purveyor that provides water service to specified dwelling structures to either adopt a general policy to require the installation of a water meter or a submeter to measure water supplied to each individual dwelling unit, or to inform an applicant for new water service as to whether a water meter or submeter is required for each individual dwelling unit, was amended on March 17, 2011.

The March 17, 2011 amendments to AB 19 clarify that the requirement: 1) to install a water meter or submeter as a condition of new water service would apply to a common interest development that submits an application for a water connection after January 1, 2014; and 2) for the water purveyor to either adopt a general policy to require the installation of a water meter or submeter or inform an applicant for new water service as to whether a water or submeter is required would apply to non-common interest dwelling structures.

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The amendments would also: 1) delete the requirement for the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop and submit building standards that require the installation of water meters or submeters in individual dwelling units within a newly constructed multiunit residential structure or mixed-use residential and commercial structure; and 2) exempt low income housing, student dormitories, long-term health care facilities, and timeshare properties from the bill's requirements to install water meters or submeters. Also exempted from the bill's requirements are structures greater than four stories in height above grade if the owner demonstrates to the satisfaction of the water purveyor that the structure's plumbing configuration incorporates multiple points of entry in each dwelling unit and renders the installation of submeters infeasible.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has analyzed the amended version and continues to support the objectives of the bill to inform water users residing in multi-family units of their monthly or bi-monthly water use to encourage water conservation. In addition, DPW indicates that the bill could still be improved by substituting "local agency" in each place where "water purveyor" appears within Sections 539 (a), (b), (c) and (d). Since submeters will be installed on private property downstream of the water purveyor's master meter, the local agency has jurisdiction for inspecting on-site improvements. Also, the bill should include language that requires the building permit application to include the project's estimated annual and peak daily water demand.

Support and opposition to the March 17th version of AB 19 is unknown. This measure is set for hearing in the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee on March 22, 2011.

County-opposed SB 244 (Wolk), which would require local jurisdictions to identify fringe, island, and legacy communities, conduct a detailed analysis related to infrastructure availability, and develop a program to reduce identified infrastructure deficiencies in these communities, was amended on March 15, 2011.

The March 15, 2011 amendments to SB 244 would require a local agency formation commission (LAFCO), upon the review and update of a sphere of influence, to include in the review or update of each sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, nonagricultural water, or structural fire protection, to include the present and probable need for public facilities and services of disadvantaged inhabited communities within or adjacent to the sphere of influence, and to assess the feasibility of governmental reorganization of particular agencies, as specified. The rest of the provisions in the bill remain the same.

The Department of Regional Planning (DRP) has analyzed the amended version and continues to oppose SB 244, stating the analysis required by the amendment would consume the cities' limited resources to update information unnecessarily since no jurisdictional change would occur during review and update of the sphere of

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influence. DRP indicates the analysis is best done during the application and California Environmental Quality Act review process when an annexation is proposed. DRP's original justification for opposition included in the March 14, 2011 Sacramento Update remains the same.

Support for the March 15th version of SB 244 is unknown. It is opposed by the California American Planning Association. This measure is set for hearing in the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on April 6, 2011.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
EW:er

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
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